

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 AID-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DPW-01 OIC-02 ACDA-05

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 920

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1221

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, VS, VN, PFOR, PDIP, UN

SUBJECT: "PRG" LIAISON OFFICE IN GENEVA: NON-HUMANITARIAN
ACTIVITIES

REF: STATE 38047

1. SUMMARY. I CALLED ON UN DEP SYG WINSPEARE LATE
FEB 23 WHO TOOK CAREFUL NOTE OF US VIEWS AS SET
FORTH REFTEL. WINSPEARE SAID HE HAD ALREADY HEARD
FROM SVN AMB AND HAD TAKEN ISSUE UP WITH LOCALLY
BASED PRG LEGAL ADVISOR NGUYEN VINH MY WHO REPLIED
THAT PURPOSE OF PRESS CONFERENCE WAS TO MAKE CLEAR
TO SWISS THAT PRG HELD "NO BITTERNESS AGAINST
HOSTS" OF LOW CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

2. AFTER LISTENING MY PRESENTATION, WINSPEARE SAID
HE MUCH CONCERNED OVER HOW HANDLE PRG AT GENEVA
AND KEPT CLOSE CONTACT WITH SWISS OBSERVER
AMBASSADOR DOMINICE ON THIS MATTER. TO DATE
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SWISS HAVE NOT FELT OBLIGED TO TAKE ANY ACTION, BUT

ARE CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE PRG PARTICIPATION IN
POLITICAL ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY LOCAL SWISS GROUPS.

3. HE NOTED THAT PRG REP PHAM VAN BA HAD ALREADY
RAISED SEVERAL QUESTIONS WITH HIM RELATING TO
BOTH LOW AND RSIO CONFERENCE AT VIENNA. BA
INFORMED THAT UN GENEVA NOT AUTHORIZED DISCUSS
SUCH MATTERS SINCE IT NOT SECRETARIAT OF EITHER
CONFERENCE. WHEN BA INSISTED ON KNOWING HOW
HE MIGHT CONTACT UN RE VIENNA CONFERENCE, HE TOLD
THAT HE SHOULD INQUIRE AT UN IN NEW YORK. WINSPEARE
SAID HE TOLD BA, THAT WHEN HE IN GENEVA HE WAS
ASSUMED TO BE PRG REP AT LIAISON OFFICE HERE.

4. WINSPEARE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER FUTURE LIKELY
ACTIVITIES OF PRG PERSONNEL HERE AND ASKED IF WE
HAD ANY THOUGHTS. HE SAID THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, HE
COULD ENVISAGE A CONFERENCE BEING CALLED - SAY BY
THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES - TO WHICH BA OR ONE
OF HIS GENEVA-BASED PRG ASSOCIATES MIGHT BE INVITED
IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY. WHAT, WINSPEARE ASKED
WERE THE LIMITS?

5. I OBSERVED THAT WE EXPECTED PRG ACTIVITIES
TO BE LIMITED TO HUMANITARIAN LIAISON WITH UN
AND SUCH A MEETING WOULD NOT FALL IN THAT
CATEGORY. WE DID NOT SEE MOREOVER HOW UN
FACILITIES COULD PROPERLY BE USED TO INVITE PRG
REPRESENTATIVES, EVEN IF THEY WERE BROUGHT IN ON
"PERSONAL" BASIS AS EXPERTS IN SOMETHING OR OTHER.
ON REFLECTION, I SUSPECT THAT WINSPEARE HAS ALREADY
LEARNED OF SOME INITIATIVE TO BE TAKEN ALONG THE
LINES OF THE HYPOTHETICAL CASE HE DESCRIBED AND
WANTS TO BE ON RECORD AS HAVING DISCUSSED THE MATTER
WITH US. DALE

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